

## *District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers*



**Happy New Year, Everyone!** Can you believe the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Riverwalk is upon us? New way-finding banners have just been installed along the walk to help visitors find their way around. Some upcoming events along the river are listed below.

### **Code Enforcement Lien Amnesty Program (January 7, 2013 – June 28, 2013)**

On October 16, 2012, the Commission approved a short-term lien amnesty program, allowing the City to settle code enforcement liens on real property for less than face value. The goal is to encourage property owners to bring their code violations into compliance and clear outstanding code enforcement liens at a reduced rate. For details and to download a fact sheet and an application packet, please log on to <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/lienamnesty/index.htm>. If you have any questions, please call 954-828-5050 or e-mail [lienamnesty@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:lienamnesty@fortlauderdale.gov).

### **Reapportionment Committee**

– In June 2012, we authorized the creation of a Reapportionment Committee to make recommendations for the equal distribution of population in Commission Districts. Committee meetings are open to the public. Agendas and minutes for the meetings, as well as other details, are posted on the City's website at <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/reapportionment.htm>. The next meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on January 28<sup>th</sup> in the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room at City Hall.

**Marina Lofts** – On December 11, 2012, Broward County Commissioners voted against taking action to have the "rain tree" on the property at 424 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue designated as a historic resource. The County had been advised that the tree is already under protected status with the City.

**Downtown Parking App** – Need help finding a parking spot in and around Downtown Fort Lauderdale? Now there's an app for that. The City has begun using technology from Streetline to let drivers know when and where parking spots open up. Sensors embedded in the pavement detect when spaces become available. Once parked, drivers can use the app to pay for parking via PayByPhone, set a timer to track time remaining on the meter, or access walking directions to help find their way back to the parked vehicle. To download the free "Parker" app, please visit <http://www.streetline.com/park>. Parker is available as a free download for both iTunes and the Android market.

**"A Region Responds to a Changing Climate"** – The City played an important role in developing this plan. See: <http://southeastfloridacclimatecompact.org/pdf/Regional%20Climate%20Action%20Plan%20FINAL%20ADA%20Compliant.pdf>.

**It's Still Manatee Season!** South Florida's Manatee Season began November 15, 2012, and ends March 31, 2013. Boaters are urged to use caution in local waterways. For details, please visit the Broward County website at <http://webapps.broward.org/newsrelease/AdminDisplayMessages.aspx?intMessageId=4171>.

### **CALENDAR ITEMS** –

- **Saturday, January 12 – Second Annual Stone Crab & Seafood Festival** from 11 AM to 5 PM, Esplanade Park. Admission is free. There will be live music, local restaurant fare, contests and raffles with great prizes, an education center, and much more! For details, go to <http://www.GoRiverwalk.com>.
- **Thursday, January 17 – Sunday, January 20 – First Annual Las Olas Blues Fest** on the Riverside Hotel Lawn. Call 954-377-0943 or see <http://www.lasolasbluesfest.com>.
- **Saturday, January 19 – "The Swing Affair"** (swing dance demo) at Esplanade Park from 1 to 5 PM.
- **Sunday, January 27 – Ninth Annual Culinary School BBQ Battle** at Esplanade Park from 5 to 8 PM.
- **Beginning on Sunday, January 27**, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month thereafter, **"Sunday Arts"** will be held from 11 AM to 2 PM along Riverwalk. Crafters will be selling their wares; performers will be performing! These events will also feature painters, photographers, and storytellers. For info: <http://www.GoRiverwalk.com>.
- **Sunday, January 27 – Medication Take Back and Household Hazardous Waste** collection events at 301 N. Andrews Avenue, 8 AM to 3 PM: [http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/news/2012/med\\_take\\_back\\_hhw\\_day.htm](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/news/2012/med_take_back_hhw_day.htm).
- **Thursday, February 14 – Second Annual "Love in the Park"** at Huizenga Plaza from 5:30 to 10 PM. This event will feature gourmet food, wine, vendors, music, and more! For details, call 954-468-1541.

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